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Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN:CEJ
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
S/S: WHLUERS
NEA:ALATHERTON
NEA:SSOBER
WHITE HOUSE -
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O 260138Z JUN 74 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 137149

EXDIS, TOSEC 42

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:PFOR,US, SA
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO MESSAGE FROM FAISAL
REF: JIDDA 3596

1. EMBASSY SHOULD CONVEY FOLLOWING ORAL RESPONSE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO KING FAISAL'S "URGENT NOTE" REFTEL THROUGH WHATEVER CHANNEL YOU DEEM MOST APPROPRIATE.

2. BEGIN MESSAGE: THE PRESIDENT HAS RECEIVED FROM AMB-ASSADOR AKINS HIS MAJESTY'S URGENT MESSAGE OF JUNE 23 AND CAN APPRECIATE HIS MAJESTY'S CONCERN OVER THE RECENT ISRAELI AIR ATTACKS IN LEBANON. THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES, AS HIS MAJESTY HAS CORRECTLY POINTED OUT, THAT CONTINUED INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE IN THE AREA WILL MAKE PEACE-MAKING IN THE MIDDLE EAST ALL THE MORE DIFFICULT.

U.S. SPOKESMEN HAVE PUBLICLY STATED CONCERN OVER THIS NEW CYCLE OF VIOLENCE. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN THE INITIATIVE WITH THE ISRAELIS IN AN ATTEMPT TO CALM THE
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SITUATION AND HAS ALSO BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE LEBANESE

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GOVERNMENT. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN INFORMED BY THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT THAT FOLLOWING THIS APPROACH, IT HAS SUSPENDED ITS RAIDS INTO LEBANON.

AS HIS MAJESTY KNOWS, THE UNITED STATES HAS REPEATEDLY DEPLORED THE ACTION-REACTION CYCLE OF VIOLENCE IN THE

MIDDLE EAST, HAS ENDEAVORED TO USE ITS INFLUENCE TO KEEP IT IN CHECK, AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. AT THE SAME TIME, THE PRESIDENT HOPES THAT ALL THOSE WHO HAVE INFLUENCE WITH THE PALESTINIANS WILL CONTRIBUTE AS WELL BY ENCOURAGING THEM TO AVOID ACTIONS, INCLUDING ATTACKS ON INNOCENT CIVILIANS, THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THIS VIOLENCE. IT IS ONLY THROUGH THE EXERCISE OF RESTRAINT BY ALL CONCERNED THAT THE EFFORTS, TO WHICH THE PRESIDENT AND HIS ADMINISTRATION ARE FULLY COMMITTED, CAN CONTINUE TOWARD A JUST AND DURABLE SOLUTION OF THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM.

THE PRESIDENT WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY AGAIN TO EXPRESS HIS GRATITUDE TO HIS MAJESTY FOR THE CORDIAL WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY WHICH HE EXTENDED TO THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY DURING THEIR VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA. END MESSAGE. SISCO

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